

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01139 201059Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07
NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01
COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 FRB-03 IGA-02 /102 W
-----201609Z 112581 /42

R 201046Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4865
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01139

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, IBRD, GW
SUBJECT: MCNAMARA'S PROPOSAL FOR PRIVATE ORGANIZATION
FOR NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

1. IBRD PRESIDENT MCNAMARA'S PROPOSAL IN BOSTON BEFORE
THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH A PRIVATE
ORGANIZATION TO HELP OVERCOME THE PRESENT DEADLOCK IN
THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND TO MAKE THE FORMER
CHANCELLOR BRANDT ITS CHAIRMAN HAS RECEIVED SKEPTICAL
PRESS PLAY BUT SOME POLITICAL CONSIDERATION IN THE FRG.

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PAGE 02 BONN 01139 201059Z

2. BRANDT HIMSELF WAS QUOTED INITIALLY BY THE PRESS
AS HAVING ONLY "TAKEN NOTE" OF MCNAMARA'S INITIATIVE.
HE LATER DECLARED THAT HE WAS IN PRINCIPLE PREPARED
TO ACCEPT SUCH A RESPONSIBIIITY, BUT BEFORE MAKING A
FINAL DECISION, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO
CLARIFY WITH MCNAMARA THE DETAILS OF MEMBERSHIP AND
GOALS OF THE ORGANIZATION. IT WAS REPORTED THAT CONTACT

WITH MCNAMARA WOULD BE MADE IN THE COURSE OF THIS WEEK.

3. THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION FOREIGN AID SPOKESMAN, TODENHOEFER IMMEDIATELY DECLARED BRANDT TO BE ENTIRELY UNQUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION BECAUSE OF THE STANCE HE TOOK IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR AT GENEVA WHEN HE WAS ELECTED HEAD OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL. BRANDT, ACCORDING TO TODENHOEFER, AT THAT TIME ACCEPTED THE ECONOMIC DEMANDS OF THE RADICAL SPOKESMEN OF THE THIRD WORLD, AND THUS PLACED HIMSELF IN CLEAR OPPOSITION TO OFFICIAL FRG POLICY.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, DR. HOLTZ, SPD MEMBER OF THE BUNDESTAG DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, IN A JANUARY 17 PRESS RELEASE, WELCOMED THE POSSIBILITY OF BRANDT TAKING ON THIS POSITION AND PRAISED BRANDT'S CREDENTIALS.

5. THE GERMAN PRESS WAS IN GENERAL SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE USEFULNESS OF AN ORGANIZATION AS PROPOSED BY MCNAMARA. A DIE WELT EDITORIAL WELCOMED MCNAMARA'S PROPOSAL IN PRINCIPLE, REASONING THAT ANY INITIATIVE TOWARDS PROGRESS IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE IS DESIRABLE. HOWEVER, DIE WELT QUESTIONED WHETHER BRANDT WAS THE RIGHT MAN SINCE HE HAS NEITHER PRACTICAL POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IN FOREIGN AID, NOR OUTSTANDING QUALIFICATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT POLICY, TWO CRITERIA SPELLED OUT AS REQUIREMENTS BY MCNAMARA. FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE BELIEVED A NEW INSTITUTION WOULD BE SUPERFLUOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 01139 201059Z

ARGUED THAT, EVEN IF THE ORGANIZATION SUCCEEDED IN WORKING OUT A COMPROMISE, THE COMPROMISE WOULD BE WORTH NOTHING WITHOUT THE SUBSEQUENT CONSENT OF GOVERNMENTS WHICH ALONE CAN BRING ABOUT A BALANCING OF INTERESTS.

6. AN ECONCOOPMIN OFFICIAL, RESPONSIBLE FOR MULTI-LATERAL AID, TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT HIS INITIAL PERSONAL REACTION WAS THAT IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO SEE A PROFITABLE ROLE FOR SUCH AN ORGANIZATION TO PLAY IN THE DIALOGUE. BUT THIS OFFICIAL NOTED A STRANGE SILENCE FROM THE SPD POLITICAL LEVELS OF THE ECONCOOPMIN WHICH, HE NOTED, COULD SIGNAL THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO THE INITIATIVE. NORMALLY HIS REBUTTING OPINION WOULD HAVE BEEN QUICKLY SOLICITED IF THE PROPOSAL HAD NO CHANCE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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